

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---|------------------------|
| In re Application of: |) | |
| | : | Examiner: R. S. Suthar |
| SHOICHI IBARAKI, ET AL. |) | |
| | : | Group Art Unit: 2851 |
| Application No.: 10/724,691 |) | |
| | : | Confirmation No.: 1987 |
| Filed: December 2, 2003 |) | |
| | : | |
| For: PAN HEAD APPARATUS AND |) | June 25, 2007 |
| CABLE ACCOMMODATING UNIT | : | |

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

Applicants respectfully traverse the restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed May 23, 2007.

In the action, it was alleged that the claims of Groups I and II are distinct because they are related as combination and subcombination and would require a different field of search. This contention is respectfully traversed. It is submitted that the amount of effort required by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office would be lessened by permitting all of the claims presently in the application to be prosecuted in a single application. The alternative is to proceed with the filing of another application, consisting of the same disclosure, and being

subjected to substantially the same search, perhaps by a different Examiner on a different occasion, with the resultant burden on the Patent and Trademark Office. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider the requirement for restriction and allow the claims presently in the application to be prosecuted in a single application.

Nevertheless, in order to comply with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.143, Applicants provisionally elect the claims of Group I, namely Claims 1-9.

Due consideration and prompt passage to issue are respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

/Scott D. Malpede/

Scott D. Malpede
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 32,533

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

SDM/vnm

FCBS_WS 1425604v1